GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:989
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2008
INCREASING INCIDENCE OF GERD DISEASE
Maharia Shri Subhash

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gastro Esophageal Reflux Disease(GERD) has been detected in the country;

(b) if so, the details including details of loss of life; and

(c) the preventive steps taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (c): As stated by India Council of Medical Research, Gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) is a clinical condition arising from multi-factorial causation. The various studies on the subject have suggested that GERD is a common problem worldwide. As per the information of the Indian Society of Gastroenterology, a survey made in 33 centres across the country in 4500 subjects, estimates that about 10-20% of the general population suffered from functional bowel disease, including Irritable Bowel Disease (IBS) and Dyspepsia.

Since certain foods and lifestyle are considered to promote GERD, physicians recommend lifestyle modifications when not recommending drug.